

~~SECRET~~AID TO DEMOCRATIC GREECE COMMITTEES

1. The various "Committees for Aid to Democratic Greece" which have been organizing in Eastern and Western Europe in the course of the past several months have recently been integrated through an "International Co-ordination Committee" established in Paris by the International Conference for Aid to Democratic Greece (Paris, 10 - 11 April 1948).

These organizations are purportedly concerned only with the provision of relief (food, clothing, and medical supplies) to the Greek rebels, and although it is clear that their main significance lies in the conventional fields of public aid and propaganda, it is possible that, as in the case of the organizations established in 1936 to aid the Spanish Loyalists, such clandestine objectives as the recruitment of volunteers and the channeling of funds and arms to the CP Greece are also involved.

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2. Prior to the International Conference for Aid to Democratic Greece, a series of national committees were formed in Eastern and Western Europe.

Yugoslavia: A "Committee for Aid to Democratic Greece" for the collection of food and clothing was set up in Belgrade on 13 January 1948. Djuro Salaj, Russian-trained president of the Central Committee of the Yugoslav Worker's Union is chairman, and its secretary is Milan Bogdanovich, chairman of the Serb Poets and Writers' Association. Prior to January 1948, it was alleged that there existed a "Bureau for the Aid to Democracies" in Belgrade, and that Professor Petros Kokalis was appointed by the rebel leader Markos as the Greek representative to the bureau, while one Margarita Poiopoulos was appointed Kokalis' deputy.

Poland: A "Friends of Democratic Greece Society," under the chairmanship of Wladislaw Broniewski, and sponsored, according to the Cominform journal, by "democratic parties, public bodies and cultural organizations," was reported as soliciting funds.

Hungary: The "National Committee for Aid to the People of Greece" stated in an official report that by 21 February 1948, 48½ million forints had been contributed.

Rumania: A similar committee may exist in Rumania, as official Cominform reports stated that workers employed in

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the oil industry contributed a half day's wages to the Greek fund; metal and textile workers in a Bucharest factory gave over 1,000 metres of fabric, and personnel at a locomotive plant worked 75,000 hours overtime contributing their overtime pay to the Greek fund.

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Belgium: [REDACTED] two
"Committees for Aid to Greece" have apparently been set up in Brussels:

- a. an overt committee concerned largely with fund raising and collecting clothes and food. This committee also sent two delegates to the "International Conference for Aid to Democratic Greece" in Paris (See below)
- b. a clandestine committee which has held four meetings in Brussels and is reportedly formulating plans for recruitment of personnel to go to Greece. Sam Herssens (CC/CP Belgium, communist deputy) presided over three of the four meetings at which the following points were discussed:
 - 1. All aid to Greece must be channeled through the central office of the CP in Paris.
 - 2. Antoine Fernandez (Spanish delegate) asserted that former members of the Spanish International Brigade would respond to recruitment efforts.
 - 3. Jean de Guent was appointed to go to France as liaison with the corresponding French group.
 - 4. Belgian Communists Pierre Massin, Jean de Guent, and Leonard Hamelryck were elected to be responsible for funds.
 - 5. Names of volunteers to recruit for "International Brigades" in Greece were taken.

The Belgian committee purportedly maintains relations with a similar committee in Italy. On 8 May 1948 the following persons were reported as having been sent to Italy to coordinate the work of the Belgian and Italian committees:

Antoine Laurent (CP Belgium)
Philippe Dekeyser (Suspected member of CP Belgium)
Verschueren, (fmu)

France: The "Comite Francais D'Aide a la Grece Democratique," 213 Rue Lafayette, Paris, is headed by Jean Guinebert, president, and Communist. Madeleine Braun, Secretary General. In a letter addressed to Juan Santos Rivera, Secretary General of CP/Puerto Rico, inviting the party to send delegates to the International Conference for Aid to Greece, the following were listed as honorary presidents of the Committee:

Bloncourt, Elie
Bure, Emile
Cachin, Marcel (CC and Politburo, CP France)
Cot, Pierre
Cotton, Aime
D'Aragon, Charles
de la Vigerie, D'Astier (Director of Liberation)
Duchene, Mrs. Gabrielle
Eluard, Paul
Joliot-Curie, F.
Jourdain, Francis
Martin-Chauffier, L.
Prenant, Marcel (alternate member of CC, substitute member of Politburo, CP France)
Wallon, Henri

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The secretariat of the committee was reported to include:

Bassis, Henri
 Monmousseau, Gaston (CC/CP France)
 Patinaud, Marius (CC/CP France)
 Pressouyre, M.

Italy: An "Aid to Greece" committee is presumably operating in Italy as three Belgian members (see under Belgium above) were sent to Italy to "co-ordinate activities" of the two organizations.

Australia and Great Britain: Among delegates to the International Conference in Paris (see below) three are named from the above countries as representing "Aid to Greece Committee" in those countries.

U.S.: The "American Council for a Democratic Greece" sent two delegates to the international conference and seem to be increasing their activity in the U.S. They are currently fighting the arrest of a Greek citizen who is being held for court-martial because she "dared to appeal to the American people through a newspaper article." These reports indicate that the "Aid to Democratic Greece" movement is not confined to Europe but is world wide and becoming more active.

3. The International Conference for Aid to Democratic Greece was held in Paris, 10-11 April 1948. The Conference was organized by the French Committee for Aid to Greece, with Andre Marty, French Politburo member, an active participant.

Paul Eluard, French poet, opened the first session and expressed the hope that "democratic Greece would triumph over her enemies" and promised to "render the heroic soldiers of Markos every support."

Zilliacus (British MP, representing the left wing of the Labour party) demanded that the policy of interference in Greek internal affairs be stopped and declared that the Soviet Union was the only nation carrying out the Yalta agreement. Connelly (New York City Councilman) presided over the third session and one Bluszki (probably identical with Dluski-Langer, Ostap, Polish delegate) made a long speech giving the history of the EAM, following the well-worn Communist line. Madeleine Braun, the secretary general of the French Aid to Greece Committee, spoke on organizational questions, stating that 65 delegates from 22 foreign countries and 115 French delegates were present at the conference. The French committee, supported by the CGT, "democratic organizations," and the whole French people, had collected two million francs and had despatched a large number of parcels of food, footwear and medical supplies. At the closing session a telegram was read from the provisional government of Greece, signed by its foreign minister. The conference then adopted a resolution protesting "energetically against the support

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rendered by the Washington government to the monarcho-fascists of Athens and against the presence in Greece of British occupation troops." An International Co-ordination Committee for Aid to Democratic Greece was formed with headquarters in Paris to provide an organizational center for the groups represented at the meeting.

The following list of foreign delegates to the conference has been compiled from the French press and from a publication issued by the French Committee for Aid to Greece:

Albania

Kocani, Drino, Mrs. (Communist, Union representative)
Kudra, Llambi (Communist, Union representative)
Sozinowski, (fnu) (Communist, Union representative)

Algeria

Unnamed representative of Democratic Youth of Algeria

Australia

Fidler, Bernie (Committee for Aid to Democratic Greece)
Murray, Steven (Youth Delegate)
Williams, Bert (Secretary of WFDY)

Belgium

Demany, Fernand (Communist deputy)
Marteaux, Dr. (VP of Chamber)

Bolivia

Arze, Jose (Former President of Deputy's Chamber, leader of Partido Izquierda Revolucionario, living in France)

Bulgaria

Unnamed delegate; possibly Professor Tachev, who holds a scholarship at a French University.

Canada

Storrie, Jessie (Communist member of WFDY)

China

Lu Tsui, Mme (Communist, delegate of women's organization)

Czechoslovakia

Belcoborski, Dr.
Benesova, Lida (Representative of women's organizations)
Boucek, Jaroslav (Youth representative)
Drtina, fnu (Communist journalist in Paris)
Kralova, Mme. M. (Representative of women's organizations)
Lang, Dr. Jaronir
Miloslava-Vivegova, Mme.
Nechvatal, Frantisek (Poet)
Papac, Dr.

Denmark

Kirk, Mrs. E. (Communist journalist)
Olsen, Albert (Professor at Copenhagen University)
Voibel, Stig. (Professor at Copenhagen University)

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Egypt

Unnamed delegate

Great Britain

Allon, Miss Elizabeth A. (Civil Liberties Union)
Butler, C. A. (Tobacco Union)
Darivas, Vassos (British Aid to Democratic Greece Committee -- Communist)
Haldane, J. B. (CP member)
Haxell (fnu) (Electrical Union)
Jones, Miss Gladys (British Aid to Democratic Greece Committee)
Martin, F. R. (Engineers' Union)
O'Hayall, fnu
Papworth, A. F. (CP/Great Britain)
Sloan, Pat (League for Democracy in Greece)
Stevens, fnu
Zilliacus, K. (MP)

"Democratic" Greece

Axiotis, Mme Melpo
Georgious, Mme. Vassos

Holland

Koening, fnu (CC member of CP/Holland)
Van Tyn, fnu
Verhey, M. H. (CP member)
Wiegmann, Piet

Hungary

Horvat, Michel (Union representative)
Karasz, Gveze (Hungarian Aid to Greece Committee)
Szeikasits, Georges (Counsellor, Paris Legation)
Vineze, Joseph (Hungarian Aid to Greece Committee)

Iran

Eskandari, fnu (Communist, representative of central council of unions)

Luxemburg

Grandgenet, Jes (Deputy, Secretary General of Union)
Hoffmann, Jacques (Labor representative)

Poland

Bromiewski, fnu (Poet)
Cwik, fnu (Secretary of Socialist party)
Dluski-Langer, Ostap (Reportedly summoned Szeminski and Morski from the
Polish embassy in London and Jean Giereck from
Polish embassy in Belgium to the conference)
Malinowski, fnu (Youth delegate)
Nagorska, fnu (Representative of women's organizations)
Motyka, fnu (Secretary of youth organization)

Rumania

Not represented as their visas were delayed.

Spain (Republican)

Anguiano, fnu
Razola, fnu
Rozal, Amaro del (Editor of clandestine "Mundo Obrero")

Switzerland

Bacchlin, Clara (Labor party)

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Bartoldi, Theo (Communist president SOI)
Bettermann, Therese (Centrale Sanitaire Suisse)
Fischer, Dr. (Communist Centrale Sanitaire Suisse)
Forel, Armand (Labor party deputy)
Grether, Fanny (Centrale Sanitaire Suisse)
Kaegi, Ueli (Youth delegate, communist)
Muret, Andre (Communist, journalist)
Streiff, Hedwige
Vincent, Ninon (Labor Party, reportedly former Comintern agent)

United States

Cole, Doris (Progressive Party of Illinois, Vice president of US Committee for Aid to Democratic Greece)
Connelly, Eugene (New York City Councilman)
Durkin, James (CIO)
Isaacson, Leo (Member of House of Representatives)
Karaflos, George (US Committee for Aid to Democratic Greece)
Pittman, John (Paris correspondent of Daily Worker)
Starobin, Joseph (Editor of Daily Worker)

Viet Nam

Duo Van Cho, Mme (Communist)

Yugoslavia

Gazi, Joseph (Labor delegate)
Jakovljevic, Stevan (Director of Belgrade University)
Kovacic, Olga (Journalist)
Minderovic, Cadonir (Secretary of Association of Arts and Letters)

4. The Cominform organ, For a Lasting Peace, For a People's Democracy! stated in its 15 April 1948 issue that an information meeting of the representatives of the Balkan countries, attended by delegates from Yugoslavia, Rumania, Bulgaria, Albania and the Greek Central Confederation of Labor had been "recently" held in Sofia. This meeting decided to request the World Federation of Trade Unions:

- a. to discuss the question of help for the Greek people in their struggle against "Anglo-American Fascism";
- b. to call upon workers everywhere to accord moral and material support to the Greek people and the Greek refugees;
- c. to set up an Aid Committee for Democratic Greece;
- d. to ask the national trade union bodies affiliated to the WFTU to form similar committees.

No further information on the activities of the WFTU concerning aid

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